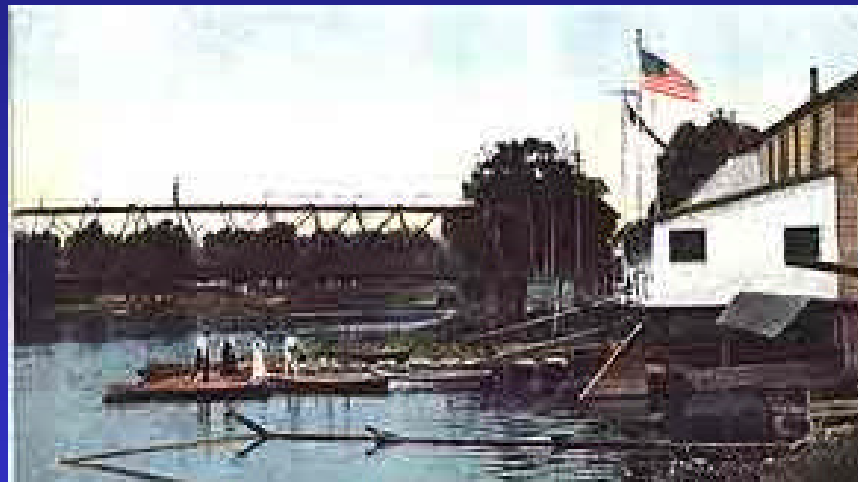




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# The Passaic of the Future

## Hudson - Raritan Estuary: Lower Passaic River Ecosystem Restoration Study



**Brigadier General M. Stephen Rhoades**  
**Commander, North Atlantic Division, US Army Corps of Engineers**

**Presented to**  
**AEHS Environment and History of the Lower Passaic River**  
**14 June 2002**



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# Outline

- The Corps of Engineers' Role of Environmental Restoration within the Civil Works Mission
- The Hudson-Raritan Estuary Study
- The HRE: Lower Passaic River Study



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# Environmental Restoration Mission

USACE Environmental Restoration work serves to:

- Enhance environmental stewardship
- Restore degraded ecosystems
- Improve fish & wildlife habitat
- Reduce sediment and water contamination





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# Civil Works Program of the Corps of Engineers

- Two-step Study Process for a Project
  - Reconnaissance Phase
  - Successfully Completed
  - Feasibility Phase
- Project Authorization By Congress
- Construction Phase



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# Hudson-Raritan Estuary

## (Environmental Restoration Feasibility Study)

Harbor Estuary-Wide ecosystem restoration projects, including enhancement and restoration of aquatic, wetland and adjacent upland habitats, and potential environmental dredging.

Study Cost sharing is 50-50%

Non-Federal cost-sharing partner is  
The Port Authority of NY & NJ





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## HRE: Lower Passaic River, NJ

- **Project's Purpose:** Identify, select and evaluate solutions including restoration, enhancement and improvement of aquatic, wetland and adjacent upland habitats, and potential environmental dredging.
- **Study Cost:** \$10 million cost shared with State of New Jersey Department of Transportation - Office of Maritime Resources





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## Project's Goal

In coordination with Federal, state and private stakeholders in the Basin, we want to create a vibrant and sustainable ecosystem by the remediation of contaminates and restoration of habitats.







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# Coordination with USEPA

- USACE actions are in full coordination and cooperation with ongoing USEPA Superfund Program work in the Lower Passaic River.
- USACE and USEPA working together for a comprehensive solutions to the challenges in the Lower Passaic River



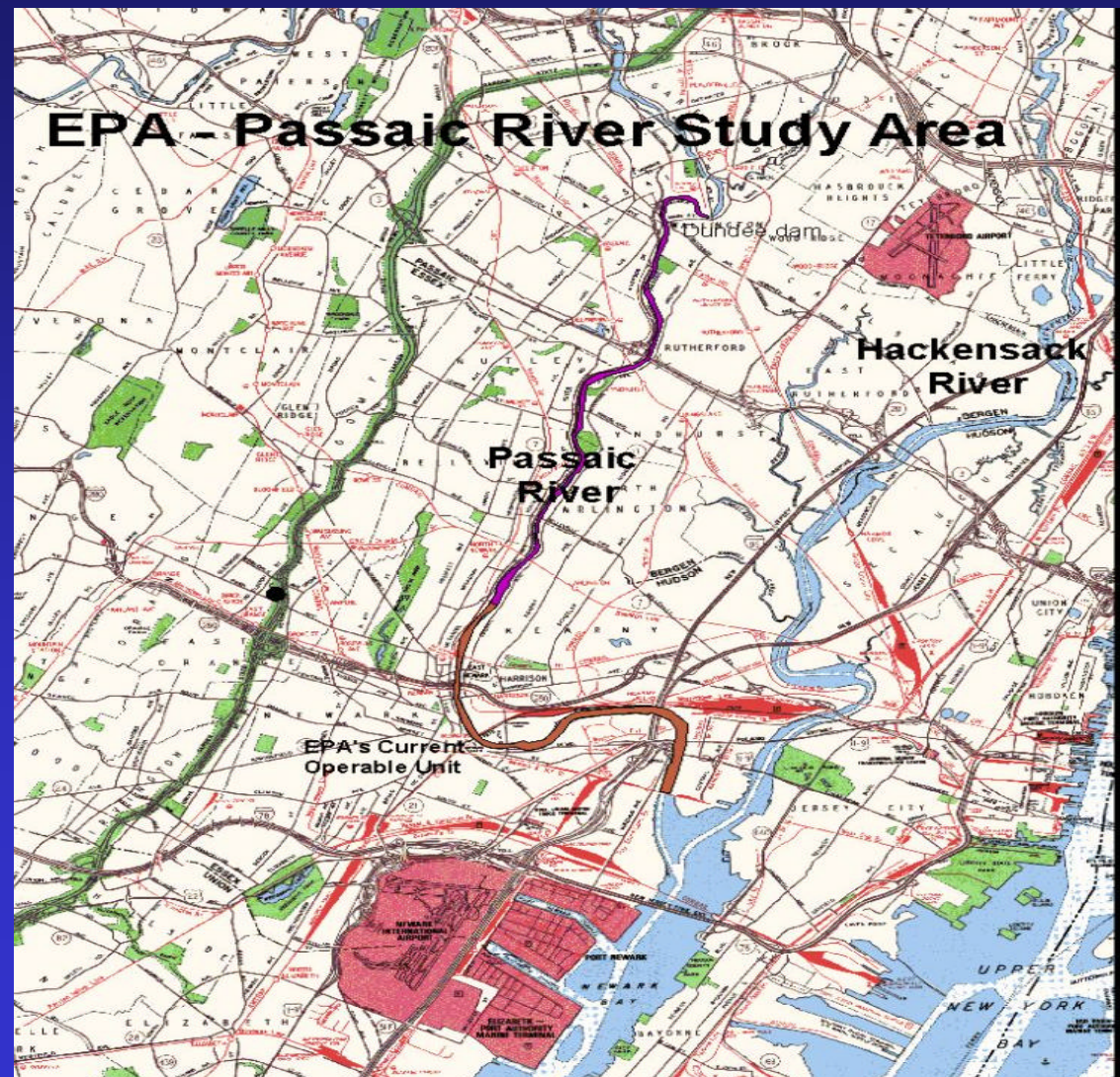




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# Study Area

- Study may expand to portions of the lower Hackensack River and upper Newark Bay, based on extent of contamination.
- 17 miles of tidal river from the Dundee Dam in the North to the river's confluence with Newark Bay.
- Highly urbanized and bulkheaded banks.





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## Near Term Steps

Finalize the Project's Management Plan

- Expected in August 2002

Sign Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement with  
State of New Jersey

- Expected in September 2002

Initiate Feasibility Study

- Expected in October 2002



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# Long Term Events

Public Meetings	Early 2003
Formulation and Selection of Alternatives	Late 2005
Issue Draft Feasibility Report and Draft EIS	2006
Issue Final Feasibility Report and Final EIS	2007



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# Point of Contact

## Project Manager:

Mr. Thomas Shea, Project Manager  
(212) 264-5570

e-mail:

[Thomas.Shea@nan02.usace.army.mil](mailto:Thomas.Shea@nan02.usace.army.mil)